

CURRENT TOPICS.

THE President, Mrs. Hayes and two sons, Secretary Evarts and two daughters, Secretary and Mrs. Sherman, Attorney-General Devens and others, left Washington on the 30th for Richmond, Va., arriving there the same day. The Presidential party were met by a reception committee composed of distinguished citizens and escorted to Monroe Park, where a welcoming address was made by the Mayor of Richmond, which was responded to briefly by President Hayes and Messrs. Evarts, Sherman and Devens. In the evening there was a general reception at the Exchange Hotel. On the following day the Presidential party visited the State Fair, where they were received by Gov. Kemper, and in the evening there was another reception at the Executive Mansion.

THE President sent to the Senate on the 29th a long list of nominations, among them the following: Wm. Henry Smith, Collector of Customs, Chicago; Theodore Roosevelt, Collector of Customs, Edwin A. Merritt, Surveyor, and L. Bradford Prince, Naval Officer, for the Port of New York; Robert T. Smith, Collector of Customs, Mobile; Edwin W. Stoughton, New York, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Russia; John Oglesby, Louisiana, Assistant Appraiser of Merchandise, and James Lewis, Naval Officer, at New Orleans; Edgar M. Marble, Michigan, Assistant Attorney-General; Gen. Guilford Milloy Wells, Mississippi, United States Consul-General at Shanghai; Charles Allen, United States Marshal, Western District of Missouri.

THERE is to be a lawsuit about Cleopatra's needle. The steamer which picked up the needle in the Bay of Biscay demands a higher rate of salvage than the contractor feels able to pay, and the obelisk will be detained at the port of Ferrol, Spain, until the matter is adjudicated.

HON. CLARKSON N. POTTER of New York has declined the Chairmanship of the House Committee on Pacific Railroads solely, as he states in a letter to the Speaker, because of his interest in railroads, in Pennsylvania, of which Colonel Thomas A. Scott is President. This, he thought, would be regarded as unfitting him for service on that committee. Otherwise, he would willingly have accepted the position. Under the rules of the House, Throckmorton of Texas will succeed Potter to the Chairmanship. This makes the committee unquestionably in favor of subsidy for the Texas Pacific.

SENATOR MORTON died on the 1st inst., at his home in Indianapolis. His last words were: "I am dying; I am worn out." Senator Morton was born in Wayne County, Ind., Aug. 4, 1823, and was therefore in his 55th year. He became Governor of Indiana in 1860, and was re-elected in 1864; in 1867 was elected to the United States Senate, and re-elected in 1873. For 17 years Senator Morton was a recognized leader of the Republican party, and occupied a most prominent position in public affairs. His funeral was appointed for Monday, the 5th, and all State and municipal offices were ordered closed on that day in respect to his memory.

President Hayes, on the 2d, issued a proclamation ordering the Executive Departments closed on the day of the late Senator Morton's funeral; the Cabinet and both houses of Congress passed resolutions of respect and condolence; private messages of sympathy were forwarded to the family of deceased by the President, Vice-President and many others.

The funeral of the late Senator Morton took place at Indianapolis on the 5th. The Court-house, where the body lay in state, the late residence of deceased, and the church where the services were held, were all appropriately draped and profusely decorated with floral tributes, the offerings of friends from far and near. A large number of distinguished persons were present, among them Senators Davis, Burnside, Bayard, McDonald, Cameron of Pennsylvania, and Booth; Representatives Banks, Cobb, Townsend, Burchard, Davidson and Hanna; the Secretary of War, Attorney-General, Burchard Hayes, son of the President, ex-Gov. Hendricks, Gov. Williams, Hon. B. H. Bristow, Gen. Jno. M. Harlan, Gov. Young of Ohio,

Gov. Cullom of Illinois, and many others. Dr. J. H. Bayless delivered a eulogy upon the deceased. The funeral cortege was very large and imposing. The remains were deposited in Crown Hill Cemetery.

THE public debt statement for Nov. 1 shows a decrease for the previous month of \$4,236,554, and the following balance in the Treasury: Currency, \$15,950,632; special fund for redemption of fractional currency, \$9,444,569; special deposit of legal tenders for redemption of certificates of deposit, \$37,020,000; coin, \$131,022,843; coin certificates, \$33,543,200; outstanding legal tenders, \$854,554,594.

THE annual report of the Commissioner of Pensions shows the number of pensioners on the rolls to be 232,104, a reduction of 33 pensioners as compared with last year. The amount required for the payment of pensions next year shows a decrease of \$500,000. The reports from the 18 pension agencies show that the consolidation of districts effected a few months ago has not in the least embarrassed the operations of the service. The consolidation of the rolls recently agreed upon will be used in the December payments.

THE Postmaster-General has determined to issue an order requiring each and every employee of the Railway Mail service (including local agents and messengers, as well as route agents and postal clerks) to provide himself during the next 60 days with a uniform, to be worn whenever on duty. The uniform will be of plain blue material, and is expected to cost something less than \$28 per suit. The purpose of the order is to guard more effectually against robberies of the mails, and especially to prevent the handling of mail-bags between the wagons and offices or cars by unauthorized persons.

COMPLETE official returns of the Ohio election show the following result on Governor: Bishop (Dem.), 271,625; West, (Rep.), 249,105; Bond (Workingmen), 12,489; Thompson, (Prohib. and Greenb.), 4,896; Johnson (Workingmen's fusion), 16,912; scattering, 93. Bishop's plurality over West, 22,520.

THE House Committee on Expenditures in the Navy Department have informed the Secretary of the Navy of their purpose to make a thorough investigation of the accounts of the department under the administration of Secretary Robeson, and especially into the alleged transfer of funds appropriated for the pay of the navy into other channels.

WASHINGTON specials are to the effect that a number of the nominations sent by the President to the Senate will either be unfavorably reported by Mr. Conkling's committee, or else not be reported back at all before the regular session. Among those whose confirmations will be opposed are Bell, the nominee for Assistant Secretary of the Interior, and Hilliard of Georgia, named as Minister to Brazil.

THE Army Appropriation bill as reported from committee prohibits any increase of the army during the present fiscal year. The present strength of the army is supposed to be somewhat less than 20,000 men. The proviso inserted by the House in the Army Appropriation bill last winter against the use of any portion of the army for so-called political purposes, etc., is omitted from the present measure.

THE following is the substance of the Bland Silver bill, reported by Judge Buckner's committee, which passed the House under a suspension of the rules on the 5th: It provides that there shall be coined at the several mints of the United States, silver dollars of the weight of 412 1/2 grains Troy of standard value, as provided in the act of January 18, 1837, on which there shall be the devices and superscriptions provided by said act, which coins, together with all silver dollars heretofore coined by the United States of like weight and fineness, shall be legal tender at their nominal value for all debts and dues, public and private, except where otherwise provided for by contract; and any owner of silver bullion may deposit the same at any United States coinage mint or assay office to be coined into such dollars for his benefit upon the same terms and conditions as gold bullion is deposited for coinage under the existing law.

PERSONAL AND POLITICAL.

THE President has nominated Mr. John Welsh, of Philadelphia, as Minister to England. Mr. Welsh is a wealthy sugar importer, and was largely identified with the Centennial Exposition. He is said to be a straight-out Republican, but has never figured much in politics. There is likely to be some opposition to his confirmation in the Senate by the more extreme party men,

but on the whole the appointment is said to be generally acceptable.

THE Missouri Supreme Court has rendered a decision favorable to Metcalfe, Republican, in the Congressional contest in the Third Missouri District.

PROF. ORTON, of Vassar College, died recently in South America, where he was engaged in scientific researches.

WM. B. BURNETT has been appointed Register of the Land-office at New Orleans, and George M. Norton, of Louisiana, Supervising Inspector of Steamboats for the Tenth District.

A PANAMA dispatch gives particulars of an attempt recently made to assassinate President Barrios, of Guatemala, by Felix Pajes, a fanatic priest. The President was dining; the priest entered, drew a revolver and fired. The first shot missed. The President then closed with him. During the struggle a servant entered and shot the would-be assassin dead.

ROBERT H. ISABELLE, late Pension Agent, Wm. Ferrell, Wm. L. Randall and John H. Harris were arrested at New Orleans on the 30th, charged with forgery, perjury and subornation of perjury in the matter of Isabelle's bond as Pension Agent, and in default of bail were sent to the Parish Prison.

THE following is a special committee of the Senate to consider the subject of ascertaining and declaring the vote for President and Vice-President of the United States: Senators Edmunds, Conkling, Howe, McMillan, Teller, Davis of Illinois, Bayard, Thurman, and Morgan of Alabama.

CAPT. W. W. WELLS, commandant at Fort Clinch, Florida, died of yellow fever on the 31st.

WILLIAM LLOYD GARRISON, the great anti-slavery leader, has published a letter denouncing the Southern policy of President Hayes.

HON. D. W. VOORHEES, it is reported on good authority, will be appointed by Gov. Williams as successor to the late Senator Morton.

REV. THOMAS BURKE, better known as "Father Tom Burke," a well known and highly esteemed Catholic priest of St. Louis, died on the 31st ult., in the 70th year of his age.

EX-MAYOR OAKLEY HALL, who mysteriously disappeared from New York City in March last, as mysteriously reappeared at his former home on the 1st instant. His disappearance was attributed to his former alleged connection with the Tweed Ring, then undergoing investigation. He was in London during the larger part of his absence.

THE Presidential party returned to Washington on the 1st, from their Virginia excursion.

FIELD-MARSHAL Baron Frederick von Wrangel, of the Prussian army, died at Berlin on the 1st.

THE Atlanta (Ga.) Constitution is authority for the statement that Jeff. Davis, while President of the late Confederacy, saved Andy Johnson's life. There was a conspiracy at Bristol, Tenn., in 1861 to hang Johnson on his arrival, on account of his great Union speech in the Senate. Davis, hearing of this, took measures to prevent it, and Johnson, in gratitude for his safety, did his best to save Davis in 1865.

MR. ALLEN C. LEWIS, of Chicago, recently deceased, left the larger portion of his fortune to Trustees for the purpose of founding in that city a Polytechnic School, to be known as the Lewis Institute. The present value of the bequest is estimated at \$550,000, and he directs that this shall be allowed to accumulate until it amounts to \$800,000, when a suitable building shall be erected.

THE funeral of the late Henry Meiggs at Lima was the most imposing ever witnessed in Peru. After the conclusion of the services at the church, the populace refused to allow the coffin to be placed upon the bier, but, taking it upon their shoulders, bore it to the grave.

JAMES GILFILLAN, nominated by President Hayes to be Treasurer of the United States, was formerly a resident of Rockville, Conn., where he was editor of the *Tolland County Republican*. He went to Washington as a Pension Claim Agent, and afterwards was a clerk in the Treasury Department, then Assistant Treasurer.

THE American residents in Paris tendered a banquet to Gen. Grant on the 6th. The General's future plans comprise a visit to Spain about the last of the present month, thence to Lisbon, Gibraltar, Tangier, and Egypt, returning by way of Malta to Italy.

GEN. FREMONT is going into copper mining in North Carolina.

REAR-ADMIRALS Preble and Reynolds will soon be placed on the retired list, and Rear-Admiral Howell or Commodore Wyman will succeed the former, and Commodore Nichols the latter.

GEN. CORRIOSO has been duly declared President of the State of Panama.

EDWARD L. SEBASTIAN, son of Senator Sebastian of Arkansas, was drowned on the 2d in the Mississippi River, opposite Horn Lake, by the upsetting of a dug-out.

A NATIONAL LIBERAL LEAGUE has been recently organized, with Mr. F. E. Abbot as President and Col. Robert G. Ingersoll, George W. Julian, O. B. Frothingham, Robert Collyer and Elizer Wright among the Vice-Presidents. The platform demands a total separation of Church and State, national protection of national citizens, and universal education the basis of universal suffrage in this secular republic.

MANUEL M. ZAMACONI has been dispatched by the Mexican Government as Commissioner to Washington, and it is expected that he will be ultimately recognized as Minister.

THERE is a small fortune of \$25,000 in the shape of back-pay and mileage attached to the Louisiana seat which Pinch-back and Eustis are seeking.

EX-SECRETARY BELKNAP has established himself in the claims business at Washington.

SENATOR MORTON's son John is now dangerously ill on the Island of St. Paul, in the Territory of Alaska. His wife has gone to him, but vessels so seldom touch there that it is not probable that they will be able to return to the United States before August next.

COL. CHARLES C. LONG, the African explorer, lately in the Khedive's service, has returned to New York utterly broken in health. He has resigned his position in the Egyptian army.

TELEGRAPHIC NOTES.

The Chicago Savings Institution and Trust Company has gone into liquidation. It is stated on good authority that the liabilities are \$60,000 and the assets only \$6,000.

John H. Geiger, a sewing-machine man of Cleero, Ind., was arrested at Toronto, Ont., on the 30th, by Indianapolis detectives, for forgeries to the amount of \$10,000 on the Citizens' Bank and private parties of Noblesville, Ind.

Judge B. T. McDonough and Col. T. M. J. Richardson have been arrested at Houston, Texas, for alleged complicity in the great Texas land swindle.

Four leading players of the Louisville Base-ball Club have been expelled for selling games and other discreditable acts, and it is intimated that other professionals connected with the St. Louis Brown Stockings and other well known clubs are guilty of the same offense.

Hammond's extensive flouring mill at Fostoria, Ohio, was almost totally wrecked by the explosion of the boiler on the 1st. Henry Wilson, fireman, and Johnny Brown, a lad of 15, were instantly killed.

A severe snow storm occurred throughout Northern and Central Iowa on the 1st.

A collision on the Philadelphia and Erie Railroad near Ridgeway, Pa., on the 1st, resulted in the death of both engineers and firemen of the colliding trains, and one brakeman. Another brakeman and several passengers were severely injured.

At Wilton, Wis., on the night of the 1st, the house occupied by Mrs. Wm. Van Voorhees was discovered to be on fire, and the neighbors upon effecting an entrance found Mrs. Van Voorhees and two of her children lying dead in bed, while another, the eldest, lay dead by the bed-room door, all frightfully burned. It is supposed that the mother killed her children and then committed suicide, and all four were probably dead before the flames reached them. The fire is supposed to have been accidental. Mrs. Van Voorhees had been deserted by her husband, and had often threatened to take her own life and that of her children.

The last spike on the Burlington, Cedar Rapids and Northern Railroad was driven at Albert Lea, Minn., on the 5th completing the through line from St. Louis to St. Paul.

A severe gale on the night of the 2d caused great damage to shipping on the Northern lakes.

The wife of Stephen May, of Mechanicsville, N. Y., took her four young children, and going to a creek, threw them in, following herself. The oldest, aged 9, got ashore and raised an alarm, and the mother and one child were rescued.

The steamer Bismarck was burned at St. Louis on the 2d, while undergoing repairs to fit her for the Southern trade. She was built in St. Louis in 1867, was valued at about \$35,000, and insured for about \$16,000. Capt. John Spane was her commander and principal owner.

Tom Staner was hung at Benton, Saline County, Ark., on the 2d, for the murder of his aunt, Mrs. Mack Staner, and another lady, Mrs. P. Taylor. The latter was visiting Mrs. Staner at the time of the murder, which was committed for the purpose of robbery, during the absence of Mr. Staner. The murderer made a full confession of his guilt prior to his execution.

Owen Wright, colored, who brutally outraged a white married lady near Crawford, Ala., was taken from jail by a party of one hundred citizens, who carried him to the woods and, it is said, burned him. His victim fully identified him.

Some of the convicts employed in the mines at Montserrat, Johnson County, Mo., mutined on the evening of the 3d. The barracks were set on fire and the inmates were all compelled to jump from the windows. Two were burned to death, and the guards shot a number while jumping from the windows, supposing they were trying to regain their liberty.

A very decided earthquake shock was experienced throughout Northern New York, New Hampshire, Vermont and Lower Canada, about 2 o'clock on the morning of the 4th. Buildings were perceptibly shaken, bells rung, furniture disturbed, and in some places crockery broken.

WAR NEWS.

The Russians have captured Tellische after a brief bombardment, together with a small Turkish garrison.

Advices from St. Petersburg, 31st, say that negotiations with the Kars garrison had been broken off, and bombardment recommenced. Gens. Heymann and Ter-gukasoff had effected a junction near Hassan Kalch, and it was reported at Constantinople that Orhanieh had been captured, with Chevet Pasha and several thousand troops.

Dispatches of the 1st say that Mokhtar Pasha's position is considered critical, but not desperate. It is officially announced that 226,000 Turkish reserves are to be immediately called out for active service. Official returns of the killed, wounded and missing on the Russian side from the commencement of hostilities to October 27, are placed at 61,942.

Dispatches of the 4th from the seat of war in Armenia were extremely contradictory, the Russians claiming to have gained important positions from the enemy, who

were said to be in full retreat, while the Turks claimed to have repulsed the Russian advance, with great loss to the invaders. The reported capture of Orhanieh by the Russians is officially contradicted, and Chevet Pasha occupied a commanding position at the junction of the roads leading to Orhanieh, Lovatz and Plevna.

The Russians, advancing from Olti to turn Erzeroum, were compelled to retire in consequence of a snow storm. A Constantinople dispatch of the 5th states that the Russian Gen. Gourko has died of his wounds.

A Horrible Crime Near Terre Haute, Ind.

A terrible crime was committed on the night of the 30th ult., near Sandford Station, about eight miles west of Terre Haute, Ind. Burgoyne Tritt, a wealthy farmer, had in his employ a young man named Sylvanus Burnham, who became enamored of Tritt's daughter, Rose, an agreeable young lady of 19. The latter did not encourage the hired man's advances, but was keeping company with a young man in the neighborhood, to whom it is supposed she was engaged to be married. On Sunday evening Rose's favored suitor paid her a visit, which so wrought up the hired man's jealousy that he threatened in some way to get even with his rival, but no one suspected to what a horrible crime his bad passions would lead him. About 3 o'clock on the morning of the 31st, Mr. Tritt was awakened by the smell of smoke, and, upon arising and making examination, found the fire in Rose's bed-chamber. She was lying upon the floor, dead, and her person bore evidences of a terrible struggle. She was weltering in blood and her throat cut, but the father could not remove the body on account of the heat, for the whole building was enveloped in flames, and he had to flee to save his own life. Before going to Rosa's room, Tritt had repaired to Burnham's apartment and found that he was gone and had taken with him his trunk. It has been developed that Burnham committed the deed, that he murdered the daughter, set fire to the building and escaped. The poor girl's charred body was found in the ruins on the following morning. Burnham had worked for Tritt about three years, and formerly resided in Tennessee. A large number of men joined in pursuit of the miscreant, and it was thought he would be certainly overtaken and made to pay the penalty of his crime.

The Mystery of a Corpse.

A special dispatch to the Cincinnati *Gazette*, from Hillsboro, O., Oct. 30, says: On the third day of our County Fair the dead body of a young man, a stranger, was found in the road near Hillsboro, 10 miles west of this place. An inquest was held, but there being nothing about his person by which he could be identified, he was buried by the authorities, and a pistol, razor, four Franklin County Democratic tickets, a prescription signed by an Illinois physician and a pocket-book containing \$3.80 in money, deposited with Judge Norton. A day or two afterward a gentleman from near Williamsburg, O., seeing the account of the suicide in the papers, became convinced that it was his brother-in-law, Moses Henderson, who had disappeared under mysterious circumstances. The body was disinterred, and pronounced by the gentleman to be his relative. It was taken up and reinterred in Laurel Graveyard, in Clermont County, as the remains of the missing man. Moses Henderson, however, was not to be disposed in that way, for to the utter consternation of his relatives and friends he appeared a few days thereafter among them in the flesh, and the question of whose corpse it was they had given sepulture became more serious than pleasant. It is thought now, however, that the mystery has been solved. On last Sabbath Mr. L. Morehead, of Shadeville, Franklin County, arrived here, having also read the reports of the case in the *Gazette*. His half-brother, Thomas Ramsey, left home on the Wednesday before the body was found, and his actions at the time gave rise to some uneasiness to his friends. Mr. Morehead gave a correct description of the articles found on the body before they were shown to him, and identified the revolver and razor at once as his brother's property, and started immediately to where the body was buried, intending to have it again disinterred and removed to his home near Columbus.

THE Piutes and Shoshones in the neighborhood of Austin, Nev., had a grand rabbit drive in Reese River valley, which lasted five days. The valley is teeming with rabbits, and the method pursued by the Indians in killing them insures the slaughter of thousands of the animals. They select a piece of ground which they know to be the resort of rabbits, and form a circle. Inside this circle the women and children are placed, and the circle is gradually contracted, the squaws and paposes meanwhile beating the brush with sticks to start the rabbits. The bewildered little animals rush hither and thither, and, finding no escape from the circle of hunters, are gradually concentrated in a smaller and smaller space. When the supreme moment arrives, the Indians discharge their guns and arrows on the confused and affrighted rabbits, slaying large numbers of them at each volley, and the women and children kill many with their sticks.